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TWICE-A-WEEK

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1916.

READ IT FIRST IN THIS PAPER

NUMBER 48.

BURLESON AIMS BLOW AT THE BANK EXCHANGE

Orders Postmasters to Collect Checks To Save Exchange. Outrageous Says Claude.

Washington, July 27.—Postmaster-General Burleson who has again thrown a monkey wrench into the smooth running Democratic machinery by issuing an order ordering postmasters throughout the country to receive and collect checks from the federal reserve banks when drawn upon non-member banks for collection.

In the opinion of practically every Democrat here this will not only work a hardship upon the patrons of banks in small towns but will result in at least \$8,000 of the 14,500 small state banks and trust companies throughout the country going out of business.

It is contended that the small banks in the towns and villages make the most of their profit on the small fee they get from the exchange of checks. To cut this revenue off will make it impossible for these institutions to do business.

Majority Leader Claude Kitchin denounced the order as one of the most outrageous proceedings he had ever heard of and declared that it was the most unjust proposition that any head of any department of the federal government had ever issued.

In a statement prepared for the Daily News in which Representative Page concurred, he said:

"In my judgment this is the most revolutionary and unjustified order ever issued by any department of this government. If enforced, it will deprive four-fifths of the state banks of at least 50 per cent of their net income, and out of the 14,500 state banks in the United States, at least 8,000 of them will be completely destroyed. The banks destroyed will be those in the smaller towns and villages, and of course, will deprive the farmers and others living in the rural districts of the benefits of the banking system.

"It is simply an outrage and when the people interested in the state banks find out what the order means they are going to raise Cain and ought to. If the department insists on the enforcement of this outrageous order, the state banks can evade it by printing on all checks the following: 'Payable in New York exchange at current rates.'

"Then when the postmaster presents one of these checks for collection he can only get the New York exchange in payment, less the cost of same, and not the current funds as is contemplated in this infamous order."

The order issued by Mr. Burleson follows:

"Notice to all postmasters: "Office of the postmaster-general, Washington, July 19, 1916.

"The chairman of the federal reserve board has transmitted to this department the following letter, dated July 18, 1916:

"I have the honor to give below copy of a resolution today adopted by the federal reserve board, as follows: "Whereas, it is necessary and desirable to facilitate the collection of checks presented through member banks, in cities and towns where there may be no member banks to act as collection agencies; now, therefore be it resolved, that the honorable secretary of the treasurer, chairman of this board, be officially requested to present to the honorable postmaster general the desire that the honorable postmaster general shall authorize postmasters to receive checks from federal banks drawn upon state banks non-members of the federal reserve system that they be requested to collect these checks in currency and remit the currency to the federal reserve bank by registered mail; the federal reserve bank of the district to pay all expenses for postage and registration fees upon funds thus remitted.

"As you know, the clearing and collection plan, covering the country-wide collection of checks at par by federal reserve banks went into effect on July 15, 1916. The request contained in the resolution is intended to enable the federal reserve board to make use of postmasters for the presentation of checks at the counter of banks which refuse to remit the federal reserve banks. It is desired that having received payment of these checks, the postmasters remit the proceeds to the federal reserve bank of the district. While it is not anticipated that it will be necessary to make use of this expedient to any wide extent, the permission to do so is much desired by the board as part of its clearing and collection plan. It will be necessary only in towns or cities where there is no member bank of the system to make the collection."

"Postmasters are authorized to receive checks from federal reserve banks drawn upon state banks non-members of the federal reserve system and they must comply promptly with the request of the federal reserve board to collect



MAJ. GEN. JAS. I. METTS
Wilmington, N. C.
Commander N. C. Division United Confederate Veterans.

General James I. Metts who was unanimously re-elected Wednesday at the State reunion at Wilmington as commander of the North Carolina Division of Confederate Veterans, is an "unreconstructed rebel" as far as years ago he was prominent in the State Division. General Metts was given a most enthusiastic welcome at the meetings yesterday.

NEW U-BOAT WAR STARTED BY GERMANS

Are Waging a Relentless Campaign Against Timber Laden Ships Traversing the North Sea.

London, July 27.—German submarines have started a relentless war against timber laden vessels in the North Sea. Four ships, all Norwegian, were reported to have been sunk today. They were the Bams, Siebrig, Juno, and Kentgera.

The captain and twelve men of the Kentgera were landed today at Shields, where they gave details of the destruction of their vessel. The German submarine commander, after examining the Norwegian vessel's papers, is quoted as by members of the crew as saying:

"Well, I suppose I must do it. I am very sorry, but it is my duty. I am sick of and tired of the whole business."

The ship was then saturated with paraffin and set on fire.

MORE THAN 700 VICTIMS OF THE PLAGUE.

New York, July 27.—Only a slight decrease in the epidemic of infantile paralysis was noted today in the health department's report of the 24 hours ending at 10 a. m. During that period there were thirty-one deaths and 151 new cases.

More than 700 children now have been killed by the plague since its inception on June 28, and there have been more than 3,000 cases reported.

CRUISER NORTH CAROLINA ORDERED TO NEUTRAL DUTY

Washington, July 27.—Aroused by an official report from the commander of the battleship Louisiana that a mysterious ship, purporting to be a British cruiser, had entered the Virginia capes early yesterday morning, the navy department today ordered the armored cruiser North Carolina and three destroyers to neutrality duty off Cape Henry.

Officials maintained unusual secrecy regarding the matter and would not disclose just what instructions were sent to the commander of the North Carolina. It was assumed, however, that he had directed to see that the German merchant submarine Deutschland, now preparing for her return trip to Germany is not attacked by allied war vessels within the three mile limit and that American neutrality is not otherwise violated.

SUING SECOND HUSBAND AT 17

Although not 18 years old, Mrs. Asta Asche is believed to hold a record for matrimonial misadventures. She already has had one marriage annulled and is now pressing action for separation against her second husband, Herman T. Asche, a member of a big New York food importing firm. She has been awarded \$250 a month alimony pending trial of her case in the New York Supreme Court.

these checks in currency and to remit the currency to the federal reserve bank by registered mail.

(Signed)
"ALBERT S. BURLESON, P. M. G." It is expected that a powerful protest will be made against the order as soon as the public learns of its significance.

DENIES A BRITISH CRUISER ENTERED VIRGINIA CAPES

English Ambassador Received a Message from the Admiral Commanding the Squadron on the Atlantic Coast Making Positive Refutation.

Navy officers who were aboard the Louisiana last Tuesday night when a vessel within the capes was reported to have signaled that she was an "English cruiser" today received the statement of Sir Cecil Spring Rice without comment, insisting that it would be manifestly improper under the circumstances for them to say anything.

Washington, July 27.—Sir Cecil Spring Rice, the British ambassador, informed Acting Secretary Polk today that he had received a message from the admiral commanding the British squadron on the Atlantic coast denying that a British warship had entered Chesapeake Bay as reported by the commander of the battleship Louisiana.

The ambassador said the British ships had strict orders not to enter the three-mile limit of American territorial waters to waylay the German submarine Deutschland or for any other purpose, and the admiral had reported that these instructions had not been violated at any time.

Mr. Polk was told that the British admiral was very indignant over the report that one of his cruisers had made an incursion into Chesapeake Bay under cover of darkness early yesterday morning.

The statement of the ambassador will be accepted by the State Department but the commander of the Louisiana is being pressed for further details on his report that a craft which passed him at Lynnhaven Inlet signaled "English cruiser." Officials do not know what to make of the case, but some are led to believe that the American officer was the victim of some kind of hoax.

The armored cruiser North Carolina and the destroyers sent out to the capes for neutrality duty yesterday will continue their patrol.

ELEVEN BODIES MAY NOT BE REMOVED IN A WEEK

Cleveland, Ohio, July 27.—The bodies of the 11 men entombed in the west-side waterworks tunnel may not be recovered for a week, as a result of investigations today which disclosed that gas continues to pour into the tunnel and that there is great danger of a second explosion wrecking the tunnel and the outer crib.

Gustav A. Van Dusan, superintendent of waterworks construction who is recovering from the effects of his trip with a rescue party into the tunnel Tuesday, declared in a statement today that electrical equipment in the crib No. 5 section of the tunnel was responsible for the first explosion.

VILLA DEFEATED IN GLASH NEAR PARRAL

Mexico City, July 27.—Constitutionalist forces in the vicinity of Parral have defeated the forces of Villa at the San Isidro ranch, according to an announcement today by General Obregon. Pursuit continues.

Villa's cavalry is heading toward the State of Durango, where General Maicotte is expected to deal with it.

Seven cars, on which arms were being transported, were taken by the Constitutionalist.

MEN OF BUT 25 STATES FIT, DECLARES GARDNER

Washington, July 27.—Claiming the troops of only twenty-five States have been found in condition for border service, Representative August Gardner, Republican of Massachusetts, introduced a resolution today requesting Secretary Baker to advise the House how many troops of the National Guard are now in service of the United States. Mr. Gardner said:

"From 25 States, 94,043 men had been sent South, and yet the prescribed war strength of these identical organizations is 161,913."

REGULAR ARMY AGE LIMIT CHANGED BY THE SENATE

Washington, July 27.—Increased pay for the officers and men of the regular army and national guard in active service for the Mexican emergency, improved camp conditions to safeguard their health, and authorization for them to vote in the field at the coming presidential election were provided in amendments to the army appropriation bill agreed today by the senate.

By a vote of 44 to 13 the senate also suspended the rules to adopt amendments changing the age minimum for enlistment in the regular army from 18 to 21 years without the consent of parent or guardian. Under the provision boys under 21 now serving in the army would not be retained in the service unless they filed within 30 days the written consent of their parents or guardians. The amendment was adopted without a roll call.

GRAPHIC RECITAL OF SITUATION ON SOMME FRONTIER

Kaiser Visiting Baden and Saxon Plenipotentiaries Gesticulated With Renewed Vigor—Evidently Considers Conditions on Somme Front in Satisfactory State.

Headquarters of the German Armies on the Somme, July 24.—(By Courier to Berlin, July 25, via London, July 27.)—Emperor William in his talk with the Saxon and Baden military plenipotentiaries today when he described the impressions resulting from his recent visit to the trenches, punctuated and emphasized his discourse with vigorous gestures. With the freshness of his color and general vivacity of energy, his bearing showed plainly that his health had not suffered under the long strain of the war.

The emperor's departure for the eastern front, accompanied by General Erich von Falkenhayn, chief of the general staff, immediately after the religious services at army headquarters is taken as a sign that the responsible heads of the army consider the situation on the Somme front now well in hand, and that there is no occasion for apprehension.

The Associated Press correspondent spent part of the morning at an artillery observation station near Peronne, waiting for the weather to clear sufficiently to permit military operations to begin. No one, however, saw any lift to the clouds, and as there was no prospect of witnessing anything interesting of importance the watch was abandoned.

The weather was not too thick, however, to prevent the general line of the opposing positions being traced from the observation point. Seemingly almost at the observer's feet was the point of the wedge when the Frenc had driven against Peronne.

Bivaches, on the west bank of the Somme, which the French for a time occupied, but which now was again in German hands, lies too low in the valley to be seen, but the height of La Maisonette, stood out plainly against the backgrounds of clouds. A Homeric struggle for its possession had been waged for long days, its own crash now was shared, the Germans holding the park while the French held the chateau on the southern edge.

Even in this day of inaction shells and shrapnel was sent bursting frequently over La Maisonette and a new struggle for complete possession of the height which is considered the best advanced post for artillery observation, apparently was about to begin.

From La Maisonette the line ran generally southwest to the village of Belloy, the corner bastion on which it bends almost directly westward to Soyecourt where it enters the original front before the beginning of the offensive.

What details of the trace could not be made out with the eye assisted by the occasionally dropping shells, were supplied by an artillery observer who stated that the village of Barleux which the French repeatedly had endeavored to storm, was in German hands while Belloy was a French stronghold, and the village of Estrees was divided in possession.

The French had this morning twice attempted to push forward the lines here by vicious attack with hand grenades, and bayonets, but without success. Barleux and La Maisonette were the storm centers in this sector.

To the northwest the square tower of Peronne cathedral arose from the valley. The house of Peronne, which is completely in German hands, and separated from the river by its natural French powers, also were discernible to the observer. Officers who recently visited the city stated that Peronne was remarkably little damaged in view of its proximity to the battle front. All the civilian inhabitants of Peronne have evacuated the city, though greatly against the wishes of many.

In most towns and villages exposed to French fire, the population manifests an obstinate desire to remain in their dwellings no matter how great the danger. Children and babes scarcely able to totter frequently were seen playing carelessly in villages where the next morning a shell might be expected to drop.

The battle line touches the Somme to the north of Blanches, runs west along the canal to Hems, where it crosses the river, and swings northward to the vicinity of Guillemont and Waterlot farm.

The gains of the entire allies are roughly included between this base line and the point of the wedge at La Maisonette, the greatest depth gained being about 4 1/4 miles.

The correspondent had no opportunity during his stay of inspecting the front opposite the British troops. He was unable by either personal inspection or conversation with participants to learn indefinitely how the situation stood there.

London, July 27.—Lloyds announces that the British steamer Olive of 2,396 tons has been sunk. Her crew was saved.

A TREATY WITH DENMARK WILL BE ANNOUNCED

This Government Acquires the Danish West Indies at a Price of \$25,000,000.

Washington, July 27.—Only determination of a few minor details remain to complete negotiation of a treaty between the United States and Denmark providing for acquisition of the Danish West Indies by this government at a purchase price of 25,000,000.

So nearly in agreement are the two governments that an official White House announcement this morning predicted that the treaty probably would be signed during the day. Tonight the delay in closing the negotiations was not explained, but it was indicated that no material barrier to their successful outcome had developed. It was suggested that the signing might await the return of Secretary Lansing from his vacation early in August.

The exact provisions of the agreement are being closely guarded in the belief that publicity at this time might place the negotiations at a disadvantage. Officials reluctantly confirmed that the purchase virtually had been consummated and betrayed displeasure that reports of the advanced status of the negotiations had been circulated in last night's press dispatches. Their chief concern is understood to be the possibility that some third nation might bring pressure to bear to defeat the project.

In general terms the treaty is understood to follow one negotiated in 1902 by the two governments but which lapsed when the Danish parliament failed to ratify it after the United States senate had acted favorably. It is said to contemplate complete American acquisition of the group, which lies east of Porto Rico and is regarded as of great strategic military value. Relinquishment of undefined American claims through right of discovery in Greenland, a Danish colony, also is said to be included.

Whether the Danish parliament might again defeat ratification is understood to be a matter of speculation among officials here. General confidence on favorable action is felt in most quarters, but diplomats are sensitive to the fact that Denmark hemmed in as she is among the great European powers, some of which have desired the Danish Indies for themselves, might feel strongly any pressure for neighbors brought to bear to prevent the sale. It is recalled that failure of the 1902 treaty was attributed to German influences.

Difficulty is anticipated on the other hand, in securing ratification of a purchase treaty by the United States senate. An effort probably will be made to secure favorable action there before the present session of congress ends.

WATCHING FOR BREMEN OFF BEAUFORT INLET

At Least One Allied Cruiser Has Taken Up Position There—Bremen May Try to Enter Beaufort.

Beaufort, July 26.—At least one cruiser of the allied powers was believed to be standing off Beaufort Inlet tonight in an attempt to prevent the entrance of the German submarine merchantman Bremen, now due at an American port after a voyage similar to that made by her sister, the Deutschland.

The keeper of the Fort Macon coast guard station reported tonight that a strange warship was in sight off the inlet throughout the afternoon. The vessel according to the keeper, cruised back and forth about 10 miles at sea until just before dusk when it disappeared. The cruiser's movements, it was said, indicated that it was keeping a close watch on the inlet.

It was rumored today that the Bremen would arrive here tonight.

DEATH IN A RUNAWAY.

New Bern, July 27.—Augustus Watson, the fourteen year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Watson of Swansboro, met a horrible death at that place yesterday morning when a cart in which he was riding, overturned, caught his body beneath it and he was dragged along a shell road a considerable distance.

ASSERTS GIRL BATHERS' BARE LEGS LURE SHARKS

Washington, July 27.—This year's fad of stockless girl bathers at the Atlantic seashore resorts is responsible for the prevalence of sharks, in the opinion of Howard Elliott, of Sarasota, Fla., who says he knows all about the monsters of the sea.

"It is a scientific fact that a shark will not attack a person wearing clothing," he says. "A shark will touch nothing dark, and I think that if the girls would discontinue going in bathing bare legged the sharks would soon disappear."

Elliott says that he intends to call his theory to the attention of the Federal authorities.

ENGLAND CONSENTS TO THE ADMISSION OF FOOD

Will Allow it Shipped to Occupied Territory Under American Supervision

London, July 27.—Great Britain will consent to the admission of food into the territory occupied by the central powers under the supervision of a neutral commission appointed by President Wilson. This will cause surprise in relief circles which have been working hard to procure some form of relief for Poland as the belief had become general that the negotiations between the entente powers and Germany had reached an impasse which offered no hopes of agreement.

The full details of the British offer will be sent to Walter Hines Page, the American Ambassador, in the form of a letter for transmission to President Wilson. Therefore, they cannot be disclosed until the letter has been received in Washington. But the general nature of the plan as outlined at the British foreign office will give the Wilson commission a chance to work with the support and approval of the entente powers in provisioning the occupied areas, provided the Austro-Germans take no more native food supplies from these districts.

THE FIRST CASE OF PLAGUE AT NEW BERN.

New Bern, N. C., July 27.—Although every precaution has been taken to prevent the epidemic of infantile paralysis, now prevalent in the North, from reaching this section, and particularly this city, all efforts seem to have proved futile and the first case was reported today.

The patient is the little four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin McKinney, whose home is on Short street and the little girl is originally ill and her recovery is in doubt. The case was discovered by Dr. J. F. Patterson, the city physician, and he immediately called Doctors Jones and Gibbs into consultation and they agreed with him that it is a bona fide case of infantile paralysis.

NINE-YEAR-OLD BOY KILLED BY AUTOMOBILE

Petersburg, Va., July 26.—John Foster Meacham, aged 9 years, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ridley Meacham, died at the Petersburg hospital shortly after 12 o'clock this morning of a fractured skull sustained when the youth was knocked down by an automobile owned and driven by F. A. Hood of 15 North Dunlop street, about 8 o'clock last evening.

Mr. Hood, according to witnesses, was driving at a moderate rate of speed eastward on Washington street and turned to the left to pass another machine going in the same direction. The child, who was walking with his mother to take a trolley ride, suddenly ran in front of the machine and was knocked to the brick pavement.

ARE DETERMINED TO PASS THE CHILD LABOR LAW

Washington, July 27.—Child labor legislation found a place on the Senate legislative program today, its passage determined in by leaders after an urgent request had come from the White House. Senate Democrats at a caucus last night decided over the protests of Southern senators to put it ahead of the shipping bill. A long debate preceded the decision.

Southern senators insisted that the caucus stand by a former decision to let the child labor bill go until December. They said Republicans had agreed to this, but that after President Wilson's visit to the capitol last week to urge child labor legislation Republicans declined to delay consideration. An effort to include immigration legislation program failed.

Senator Kern notified the Senate today of the determination of the Democratic caucus to call up the child labor bill as soon as the District of Columbia appropriation bill is passed.

"The minority is gratified at that decision," said Senator Gallinger, speaking for the Republicans. "We are anxious for passage of that measure."

President Wilson insists on the bill being included in the Democratic legislative program.

BIG JUNK FILE

During the year of 1915 secondary metals were removed from scrap, sweepings, etc., in the United States to the value of \$114,304,930 according to the annual statement on Secondary Metals issued by the U. S. Geological Survey. This report is now available for distribution.

TWELVE KILLED; FIFTEEN INJURED.

El Paso, Texas, July 27.—Between twelve and fifteen persons were killed and more than twenty injured when a northbound train on the Mexican railroad turned over into a gully near Montera, according to dispatches reaching El Paso today.

FATE OF NAVAL BILL IS A VERY DOUBTFUL THING

Leaders Have High Hopes That it Will Suffer Less at Hands of Congress Than expected.

Washington, July 27.—Senate leaders encouraged today by President Wilson's stand for the Senate naval program, were in high hopes that the Senate bill would suffer less at hands of a conference than had been expected. Whether the President's influence was strong enough to put through the full Senate program was considered uncertain.

The House probably will name conferees when it meets again Thursday. Senate members have been named. Representative Buchanan, of Illinois, fighting reference of the measure to conference on the contention that it is too important to be disposed of that way succeeded yesterday in preventing naming of House conferees, but the rules committee is prepared to force leaders' plans for a conference.

President Wilson will personally urge the House naval committee to support the naval bill as it now stands with all the branches added in the Senate. He will see the Democrats and later the Republicans at conferences to be arranged later.

The bill is ready for conference between the two houses for adjustment of differences. The President particularly wants the building program to stand, including the four dreadnaughts and the four battle cruisers. There are indications that the House managers want to reduce the Senate increases.

GOLD ON THE APPAM WORTH ABOUT \$185,000.

The captured Elder-Demster line Appam is a lawful prize according to the decision of the German prize court just rendered at Berlin, amounting to 739,000 marks, about \$185,000, which was transferred to the raider Moers before the Appam was carried into Hampton Roads, has been ordered turned over to the Reichstag, in accordance with the decision of the court.

RIVERS AND CREEKS IN EAST NORTH CAROLINA ARE RISING

New Bern, July 27.—The waters in the rivers and creeks east of New Bern and mainly in Carteret county and the lower part of Craven continue to rise rapidly and all the streams are out of their banks and the lowlands are being flooded and crops badly damaged. Newport river traversing Carteret county is as far above the high water mark. Slooms creek is on a rampage and it is feared that the damage will be much greater than at present unless the waters soon begin to fall. So far the waters of Neuse and Trent rivers around New Bern have not risen, the floods up state having but little effect on these heavy rivers continue falling and these add much to the seriousness of the situation.

Berlin, July 27.—Captain James Montague Huggins, a war prisoner in the camp at Doberitz is probably the youngest British officer of his rank. He is not yet eighteen years old and commanded a battalion as a brevet major when he was captured in one of the battles near Loos.

The captain entered the army as a volunteer shortly after his sixteenth birthday and at seventeen was a first lieutenant. He fought with distinction in many engagements and is treated with the greatest respect and consideration by the German military authorities.

COMPLIMENTS ON THE HALF SHELL

"Ye Editor" Hears Many Favorable Remarks on the Red Headed Edition this Week.

The Commonwealth had no idea that a little red ink scientifically smeared on the front page of the "old reliable" would pull so many compliments, but it did, just the same. Shortly after going to press Wednesday with the belated edition of Tuesday, a fresh copy of the paper was placed on the plate glass which protects the writer from the curious stare of the populace, and yaddertor have seen 'em coming up. Very few who were lucky enough to get hold of a copy have up to this writing failed to slap "ye Editor" on the back and say "some class, kid." Most everybody was "shooting the bull" so to speak about this class edition. But before closing this article, it is said to relate that it still takes money to run a business, dingbust, but the cheering remarks caused a temporary lull in the battle between output and intake. Maybe the boys will come up later and subscribe to the paper that has been here since father was a boy.